

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a complete list of claims. The claims below replace all prior versions of the claims in the application. Please cancel claims 1 and 2; and add claims 3 – 11.

1. – 2. Canceled

3. (New) A method for keeping a bag closed, the method comprising:  
surrounding and contacting, with a strap, a portion of the bag that has been constricted to close an opening to an interior of the bag;  
placing a first end of the strap over a second end of the strap;  
engaging a hook disposed on either the second end or the first end with a corresponding loop disposed on either the first end or the second end, respectively, to releasably attach the first end to the second end.
4. (New) The method of claim 3 further comprising constricting the portion of the bag to close the opening to the interior of the bag.
5. (New) The method of claim 4 wherein constricting the portion of the bag includes placing and holding the second end of the strap to the portion of the bag, and then pulling the first end around the portion of the bag to squeeze the portion of the bag together and close the opening.
6. (New) The method of claim 5 wherein pulling the first end around the portion of the bag includes pulling a ring fastened to the first end of the strap.
7. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein placing the first end of the strap over the second end of the strap includes holding the second end to the portion of the bag and moving the first end of the strap toward the second end.
8. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein placing the first end of the strap over the second end of the strap includes moving the second and first ends toward each other.

9. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein engaging the hook with the corresponding loop includes pressing the first and second ends together.
10. (New) The method of claim 3 further comprising separating the first end of the strap from the second end of the strap to remove the strap from the bag and open the bag.
11. (New) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
  - surrounding and contacting, with the strap, a portion of another bag that has been constricted to close an opening to an interior of the bag;
  - placing the first end of the strap over the second end of the strap;
  - engaging the hook disposed on either the second end or the first end with a corresponding loop disposed on either the first end or the second end, respectively, to releasably attach the first end to the second end.